

## The Enchanted Castle.

they do, to call the little spots they inhabit, *the Fortunate or Happy Isles*.

But among these islands, which are twenty-four in number, is a very small one, (and indeed the smallest of them all) which by the natives is called the *Seat of Education*. In this little island, which is not above three miles long, and as many broad, stands *The Enchanted Castle*.

The form of it is a perfect square, which is four-score yards in length; and in the middle of it there is a spacious and a very beautiful court, which is paved with stone, and hath a fountain in the center that is continually playing, and casting up the water as pure as crystal, to a most surprising height. On each side of the building, both next the court and without, are very magnificent piazzas, which are all supported by large pillars of the finest marble, and form the most agreeable walks both for exercise and improving conversation, that I ever beheld: for at a small distance from the castle (or I should rather perhaps call it a palace) are rows of stately trees, which  
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strike the eye with their towering majesty, and afford a safe abode to innumerable birds; a circumstance, which still adds to your pleasure; for these feathered songsters are continually entertaining you with their mingled and melodious notes, which together produce a perfect concert that is most agreeably softened by the distance between the trees and the piazzas. The ground before the castle, till you come to the trees, is very beautifully laid out into gardens, which abound with many spacious walks and grass-plats, edged with flowers and adorned with statues and fountains; and, in short, here you may have every thing which can either please the eye or gratify the palate. As to the space between the trees and the sea-shore, which is much the largest, this also is most agreeably divided on every side into verdant lawns and flowery meads, which are bespangled (if I may so express myself) with a thousand milk-white heifers and flocks of sheep, whose fleeces may vie in colour with the driven snow. Upon the whole,  
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